IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Van Barlow, et al.

Serial No.

10/017,746

Filed

December 7, 2001

For

COATED STAPLE AND FASTENING TOOL FOR THE

SAME

Examiner

Lopez, Michelle

Art Unit

3721

Docket No.

510P004

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action dated February 10, 2004, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 4 of this paper.

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